

ASTSWMO

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Winter 2013

To enhance and promote effective State and Territorial programs for waste and materials management, to encourage environmentally sustainable practices and to affect relevant national waste and materials management policies.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 24-25, 2013: ASTSWMO Mid-Year Meeting at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Billings, MT. **Registration is open.** Please read the announcement for important details about the meeting.

September 16-18, 2013: National Tanks Conference. For more information visit:

<http://www.neiwppc.org/tanksconference/>.

October 29-30, 2013: ASTSWMO Annual Meeting at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC.

FEDERAL FACILITIES RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

The Federal Facilities Research Subcommittee will be utilizing video teleconferencing for the ASTSWMO Mid-Year Meeting roundtable sessions on the morning of April 25, 2013. State and Federal representatives that are unable to attend the meeting in person will be able to participate using a combination of phone, web, and video technologies, on a first come, first served basis. Registration information and logistical instructions will be provided to members in separate announcements between now and the Mid-Year Meeting.

ASTSWMO newsletters are archived at: astswmo.org/Pages/Policies_and_Publications/Newsletter.html

Congressional Testimony on “The Role of the States in Protecting the Environment Under Current Law”

ASTSWMO President Jeffery Steers (VA) testified before the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy on February 15, 2013. “The Role of the States in Protecting the Environment Under Current Law” was the title of the hearing. Mr. Steers’ testimony focused on efficiencies that State waste management and cleanup programs have developed in order to enhance effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment in their States, such as:

- State risk-based planning;
- Area-wide approaches to remediation; and
- Leveraging resources in voluntary cleanup programs.

The video of the hearing can be found at <http://energycommerce.house.gov/hearing/role-states-protecting-environment-under-current-law>.

Mr. Steers’ testimony begins at 41 minutes: 22 seconds.

The written version of his testimony can be found at:

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/IF/IF18/20130215/100242/HHRG-113-IF18-Wstate-SteersJ-20130215.pdf>.

ASTSWMO was well represented by President Steers.

THE PRESIDENT’S LETTER FROM JEFFERY STEERS (VA), ASTSWMO PRESIDENT

[The President’s Letter](#) from ASTSWMO President Jeffery Steers (VA) is now available on ASTSWMO.org on the [ASTSWMO Policies and Documents](#) page.

Tanks Subcommittee

This quarter, the UST Task Force will be reviewing and analyzing the most common compliance violations found during UST inspections conducted by State UST programs. A final summary report will be developed with recommendations on actions UST programs can take to improve compliance rates in the future.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING ON AN ASTSWMO TASK FORCE OR FOCUS GROUP? Visit the [Task Force and Focus Group Openings](#) page. The **2013 Members in Actions Rotation** has created many new openings. Visit the page today to discover how you can participate.

TRAVEL POLICY

Has it been awhile since you traveled with ASTSWMO? Then please re-familiarize yourself with our Travel Policy; a revision will be posted the first week of March. The [Travel and Reimbursement page](#) has examples of a correctly filled out reimbursement form as well as helpful hints.

RETIRING?

Please let us know how to reach you at home. We are working to build a network for retired members.

GET TO KNOW THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All Board members' photographs are on the [Board of Directors page](#). The Executive Committee's biographies also are available on the page.



At the 2012 Annual Meeting, Rick Moss accepts a special award on the announcement of his retirement from ASTSWMO President Jeff Steers (VA).

CERCLA AND BROWNFIELDS RESEARCH CENTER

The Sediments Focus Group will shortly publish their research paper titled, "Sediment Remedy Effectiveness and Recontamination: Selected Case Studies". The paper discusses causes and issues related to recontamination. Discussion topics include new contamination of sediment sites from both known sources and newly identified sources, including contamination from new chemicals or those not addressed in previous assessments, and identification of pollutants most commonly found in areas where recontamination has occurred. The paper also presents case studies at sediment remediation sites where inadequate source control and/or recontamination have been documented after remedy efforts have commenced.

The Brownfields Focus Group will hold a State Brownfields Forum March 19th and 20th in Washington, DC. Members of the Brownfields Focus Group will be sharing their current work on State Brownfield metrics and will seek State input from attendees. The Forum attendees will also meet with U.S. EPA staff to discuss current Brownfield issues.

Hazardous Waste Subcommittee

The ASTSWMO Hazardous Waste Subcommittee and its Training and Enforcement Task Forces hosted the Association's first GoToMeeting webinar. The members-only training webinar was held on January 8, 2013 and initial feedback has been very positive. We had forty logins requested prior to the webinar. However, at least 340 people attended the webinar via those 40 logins.

When asked about the value of the training, 93.8% rated the knowledge gained as somewhat valuable or better, 100% rated the relevancy of the information somewhat valuable or better, 90.7% rated the opportunity to share information and/or dialogue with colleagues as somewhat valuable or better, 100% rated the information that affirmed prior knowledge as somewhat valuable or better, and 90.6% rated the information that enhanced professional development as somewhat valuable or better.

The written comments were mostly positive, including one comment about the training inspiring a lively post-webinar discussion among those in attendance at that location. Those who completed the evaluation also provided ideas for future trainings, which include civil and criminal case studies with errors the audiences could learn from, new developments with Definition of Solid Waste, new regulations, achieving enforcement consistency, and industry-specific inspections, as well as many other suggestions.

QUESTION OR COMMENT ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER?

PLEASE CONTACT ALLISON GOLDBERG (ALISONG@ASTSWMO.ORG OR 202-624-7883) OR DANIA RODRIGUEZ (DANIAR@ASTSWMO.ORG OR 202-624-5973).